



## *The Old Ironsides Report*

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### **1AD's 315th Tactical PSYOP Company fights rumors in Baghdad**

Story By Spc. Christopher Stanis

**1AD PAO**

BAGHDAD, Iraq – In a city that has a reputation of running widespread on rumors, the opinions of Baghdad's residents might be easily swayed because of misinformation.

The tactical psychological operations teams (TPTs) throughout the city combat false rumors daily to subdue fears and paranoia citizens may have about the coalition.

"If there is somebody spreading rumors against (the United States), we're not going to go out and call them liars; that would just lend them more credibility," said Cpl. Philip Chun, Tactical PSYOP Detachment 1230. "Instead, we just put out the truth."

The TPTs from the 315th Tactical PSYOP Company spend a lot of time in the community disseminating information through Baghdad Now, the PSYOP-created newspaper designed to provide citizens with positive news on the coalition's work in Iraq.

They also distribute posters and handbills and broadcast loudspeaker messages with important information such as staying away from unexploded ordnance or joining the Iraqi Civil Defense Corps.

While out in the city, these PSYOP teams also listen to the concerns of residents.

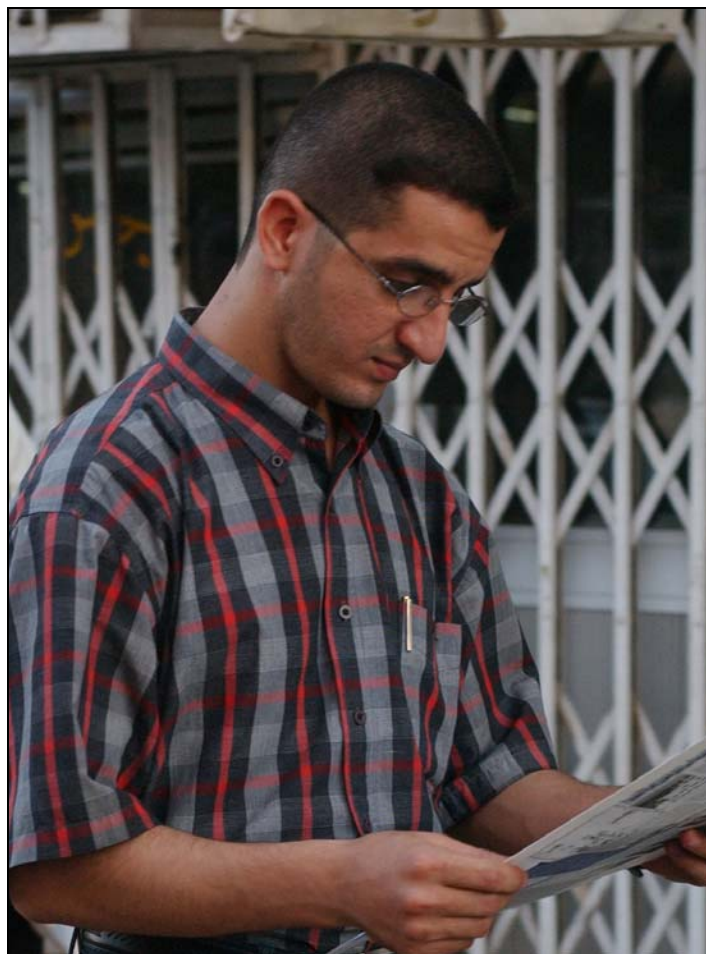
"We're not (intelligence) gatherers," said Cpt. Aaron Davis, TPD 1230 officer in charge, "but if somebody comes up to us with a problem, we won't turn them away."

Davis said they collect as much information as they can about a situation – whether it is a robbery, a need for medical care, or information leading to the arrest of Fedayeen members – and pass it on to the proper authorities.

The willingness of Iraqis to approach and work with coalition forces to provide information reflects how tension has diminished since the 315th TPC's arrival in Baghdad May 1.

"In a lot of ways you can tell Iraqis are more acceptant of us is because (PSYOP) posters used to stay up an average of three days then they would get torn down," Chun said. "Now we still see posters still hanging after three weeks."

Davis said, considering the population of Baghdad, only a small number of people hate the coalition enough to bring harm to the forces. "There are five million people in Baghdad. I believe 99.96 percent of them are happy with us here," Davis said. "Life is better."



*A young Iraqi man peruses the latest edition of Baghdad Now.*

"Eventually that small percentage (who are against the coalition) will be drowned by people saying, 'Shut up. Davis also attributed much of the remaining resistance to Iraqis on the lower end of the social ladder.

"The middle-class people and the educated people (in Baghdad) realize that (the rebuilding process) is going to take time," he continued. "It is the poor guy who had nothing before the war, has nothing now and looks into the future and sees nothing, who is taking advantage that we're not as aggressive as Saddam."

Davis said over time Iraq could become a great example for peace in the Middle East. "Iraq could be a shining light among Islamic countries," he said. "In the future it could be a good friend of the United States."

## NEWS

**Hamas Abandons Truce After Israeli Strike**  
GAZA CITY, Gaza Strip (AP) - Israel killed a senior Hamas political leader in a missile strike Thursday, retaliating for a suicide bombing of a bus that killed 20 people, including six children. Hamas vowed revenge and, along with Islamic Jihad, formally called off a truce declared eight weeks ago. Also, Israeli troops raided the West Bank towns of Nablus, Jenin and Tulkarem in search of militants. In the West Bank city Hebron, troops blew up the home of the Jerusalem bus bomber, a routine punishment intended as deterrent.

**'Chemical Ali' Captured; Death Toll Rises**  
BAGHDAD, Iraq (AP) - More bodies were pulled from the rubble of the bombed U.N. headquarters on Thursday, and the United Nations announced plans to withdraw one-third of its staff. The U.S. military said it had captured one of Saddam Hussein's top generals, Ali Hassan al-Majid - nicknamed "Chemical Ali" for carrying out poisonous gas attacks on Iraqi Kurds. A previously unknown group claimed responsibility for the unprecedented suicide attack against the United Nations. The group calling itself the "Armed Vanguard of a Second Mohammed Army" pledged "to continue fighting every foreigner (in Iraq) and to carry out similar operations" in a statement sent to the Dubai-based Al-Arabiya satellite channel.

### Chaplain's thought for the day:

CHANGING THE WORLD  
(UNKNOWN MONK 1100AD)

When I was a young man, I wanted to change the world. I found it was difficult to change the world, so I tried to change my nation. When I found I couldn't change the nation, I began to focus on my town. I couldn't change the town and as an older man, I tried to change my family.

Now, as an old man, I realize the only thing I can change is myself, and suddenly I realize that if long ago I had changed myself, I could have made an impact on my family. My family and I could have made an impact on our town. Their impact could have changed the nation and I could indeed have changed the world.

## Oddly Enough

### **Noodle Co. Sends Execs to Survival Camp**

TOKYO (AP) -- It takes tough managers to succeed in Japan's cutthroat instant noodles business, and one company wants to ensure it has the toughest - through ramen noodle boot camp. Newly promoted managers at Nissin Food Products need to survive three days on a tiny, uninhabited island where they will dig their own toilets, make fire from dry leaves, catch their own fish and even carve their chopsticks from local bamboo. The plan is to promote team spirit, perseverance, creativity and an appreciation for the product, said Masanaga Oguchi, spokesman for the Osaka-based ramen noodle maker. "In our daily lives, all you have to do to make instant ramen is pour hot water and wait a few minutes, and we take it for granted," Oguchi said. "I'm sure participants would appreciate our product in a situation where they have to go through a lot of trouble just to make hot water."

## *A Smart Tip from 1AD Safety*

### IN CASE OF FIRE

- ATTEMPT TO EXTINGUISH
- NOTIFY FIRE DEPARTMENT
- IF FIRE CANNOT BE CONTROLLED-  
EVACUATE ALL PERSONNEL  
IMMEDIATELY
- DO NOT REENTER BUILDING

### **This Day in History:**

*August 22<sup>nd</sup>, 1851*

On August 22, 1851, the U.S.-built schooner *America* bests a fleet of Britain's finest ships in a race around England's Isle of Wight. The ornate silver trophy won by the *America* was later donated to the New York Yacht Club on condition that it be forever placed in international competition. Today, the "America's Cup" is the world's oldest continually contested sporting trophy and represents the pinnacle of international sailing yacht competition.